POL 23-9 U VOLTA
XR POL 13-1 U VOLTA

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

Ouagadougou 211

CONFIDENTIAL

PP RUEHC RUEHCR RUFHPA
DE RUEHCR 004GP 0021450
ZNY CCCCC
P R 021438Z
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 211
INFO RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 114
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 51
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY COTONOU 73
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY LOME 59
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY NAIMEY 75
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS 105
STATE GRNC
BT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L JANUARY 2

REF: EMBTEL 209 — POL 23-9 U VOLTA
POL 13-1 U VOLTA
LAB 6-1 U VOLTA

SUBJ: DISTURBANCE OUAGADOUGOU

NO FURTHER INCIDENTS IN OUAGADOUGOU AND NO DISTURBANCES REPORTED ELSEWHERE IN COUNTZY. ARMY HOWEVER REAPEARED TODAY IN FORCE THROUGHOUT CITY. CHECKPOINTS MAINTAINED AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS AND OUTSKIRTS TOWN. RADIO, POST OFFICE AND POWER PLANT EACH GUARDED 20-30 FULLY ARMED SOLDIERS.

NATIVE MARKET IN CENTER TOWN OPEN AS USUAL BUT SOMEWHAT LESS ATTENDED. SMALL KNOIS PEOPLE WERE ADDRESSED BY UNIONISTS IN EARLY MORNING. EMB MEMBERS SAW ARMY UNITS ARRIVE AND ARREST 12-15.

PAGE TWO RUEHCR 004GP C O N FI D E N T I A L
DONE QUICKLY, EFFICIENTLY WITH NO DISTURBANCE OR PUBLIC REACTION. CONTRARY DEFINITE PRIVATE GOVT REPORT YESTERDAY, CHRISTIAN UNION LABOR LEADER JASEPH OUEDRAOGO ESCAPED ARREST AND WHEREABOUTS NOW UNKNOWN.

AT 1245, UPPER VOLTA RADIO BROADCAST STRONG PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ACCUSING JOSEPH OUEDRAOGO INSTIGATING TROUBLE AND ASSERTING

CONFIDENTIAL

EB

8 MAR 30

BOTH GHANAIAN TIE AND CHICOM INFLUENCE. ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS PROHIBITED AND ILLEGALITY STRIKE ACTION EMPHASIZED.

EXISTENCE PLOT STILL NEEDS BE ESTABLISHED. WHILE OUEDRAOGO WAS ATTENDING MEETING UNION SYNDICALE DES TRAVAILLEURS VOLTAIQUES WHEN DISTURBANCE BROKE OUT EVENING DEC 31, THERE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD BASED HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES THIS INDICATIVE BROAD POLITICAL

PAGE THREE RUEHCR 0034GPC C O N F I D E N T I A L
PLAN. GOVT APPEARS PERHAPS BE OVER-REACTING. EXTENT POPULAR SUPPORT FOR UNIONISTS, OR REACTION AGAINST GOVT, NOT APPARENT TODAY BUT SHOULD BE EVIDENCED BY DEGREE STRIKE EFFECTIVE TOMORROW. LABOR LEADERS STILL IN HIDING AND AMOUNT ORGANIZATION AMONG THE THREE VOLTAN UNIONS OR THEIR LEADERSHIP NOT KNOWN.

GP-3. ROBERTS
BT